

MERULIUS IN NORTH AMERICA, SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

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Merulius incarnatus Schw.—While recently privileged to study in the Farlow Herbarium, I found in the Curtis collection an authentic specimen of *Merulius incarnatus* Schw. from Schweinitz Herbarium in such excellent state of preservation that it corrects the error which has prevailed with regard to this species for nearly a century, and which I followed in my work on 'Merulius in North America.'¹ *M. incarnatus* was published as dimidiate by Schweinitz² and also later by Fries³ who had seen a specimen and emphasized the point by adding that this species is unique in its section in not being effuso-reflexed. The only dimidiate, white-spored *Merulius* which now occurs in the United States eastward from the Mississippi River is *Merulius rubellus* Peck, and this species does not range east of the Appalachian Mountains. As the descriptions of *M. incarnatus* by both Schweinitz and Fries apply better to *M. rubellus* than to the true *M. incarnatus*, there seemed no doubt that Schweinitz had collected as his type of *M. incarnatus*, in North Carolina in an isolated eastern station beyond its normal range, the fungus which has since become better known under the name *M. rubellus*.

The authentic specimen of *M. incarnatus* in Curtis Herbarium is not dimidiate, in spite of the statements by Schweinitz and Fries to the contrary, as already mentioned, but it is distinctly effuso-reflexed, with the upper surface of the broadly reflexed portion somewhat tomentose, pallid by age, and the hymenium ranging from flesh-pink to the red color of garnets, listed in Ridgway as garnet-brown and Hessian

¹ Ann. Mo. Bot. Gard. 4 : 310. 1917.

² Naturforsch. Ges. Leipzig Schrift. 1 : 92. 1822.

³ Elenchus Fung. 1 : 57. 1828; Epicrasis, 500. 1838.

brown. The hymenial folds form rather deep pores, radially elongated, transversely venose, and subdivided into smaller, angular pores. The fructification required an interval of several minutes after water was applied before its broad gelatinous layer softened sufficiently for sectioning. The spores are hyaline, allantoid, $3 \times 1 \mu$.

This is the common species with snow-white effuso-reflexed pileus, garnet-colored hymenium, large decompound pores, and small allantoid spores, of the eastern United States. I have hitherto regarded it as a form of *M. tremellosus*, and have cited the various collections of it under *M. tremellosus* in my paper on 'Merulius.' Collections of it run down to *M. tremellosus* by the key to species of that paper, and I am not sure that it should not be referred here. However, upon examining critically seven European specimens of *M. tremellosus* which have been distributed in exsiccati, I find that none have the red hymenium of *M. incarnatus*; hence it may be practicable to separate *M. incarnatus* from *M. tremellosus* by the red hymenium of the former. Although I am unable to point out any other feature of difference, still such differences may be observed later.

M. incarnatus is common on stumps and logs of frondose species from Massachusetts to Texas, and in Missouri. June to December.

Specimens examined:

Exsiccati: Ravenel, Fungi Car. 2 : 22.

Massachusetts: Arlington Heights, *E. A. Burt*; Cambridge, *W. G. Farlow* (in Mo. Bot. Gard. Herb., 54920).

New York: East Galway, *E. A. Burt*.

Pennsylvania: *E. Michener*, 478 (in Curtis Herb., and in Mo. Bot. Gard. Herb., 4077); Carbondale, *E. A. Burt*; Trexler-town, *W. Herbst*.

Virginia: Great Falls, *J. R. Weir*, 8005 (in Mo. Bot. Gard. Herb., 54932).

North Carolina: *Schweinitz*, type (in Curtis Herb.).

South Carolina: *H. W. Ravenel*, in Ravenel, Fungi Car. 2 : 22; Santee, *H. W. Ravenel* (in Curtis Herb.); Society Hill (in Curtis Herb.).

Alabama: *Peters*, 428 (in Curtis Herb.); Havana, *W. Trelease* (in Mo. Bot. Gard. Herb., 4071); Montgomery County, *R. P. Burke*, 59, 114 (in Mo. Bot. Gard. Herb., 18206, 19801).
Texas: *Ravenel*, Dr. Billings, 114 (in Curtis Herb.).
Missouri: Creve Coeur, *E. A. Burt* (in Mo. Bot. Gard. Herb., 54328).

M. rubellus Peck.—This is a good species, although regarded by me formerly as a synonym of *M. incarnatus* Schw. in my work on 'Merulius in North America.' The description given there on p. 310 is correct for *M. rubellus*, as are also the distribution of the species and the citations of specimens examined. *M. rubellus* should be written in place of *M. incarnatus* in the key to species; and the citations of *M. incarnatus* in the synonymy and the last sentence of the comment on this species on p. 311 should be deleted.

M. hirsutus Burt.—Additional collections of this species which may be cited are:

Mexico: Jalapa, *W. A. & Edna L. Murrill*, 65 (in N. Y. Bot. Gard. Herb., and in Mo. Bot. Gard. Herb., 55238); Oaxaca, Santa Ines del Monte, Zimatlan, 3000 ft. altitude, *C. Conzatti*, 1377 (in Farlow Herb.).

M. lacrymans (Wulf.) Fr.—As this species is rare in North America, the following collections are recorded as additions to the list formerly published:

Massachusetts: Boston, on floor, tables, and walls up to a height of about 4 ft. in a laboratory of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, *W. G. Farlow* (in Farlow Herb.).

New Jersey: Newfield, on damp wall, *Lucian Fish*, from Ellis Herb. (in Farlow Herb.).

M. rimosus Berk.—In my work on 'Merulius in North America,' p. 327, I regarded this species as a probable synonym of *M. niveus* but had not been able to decide positively, because the cotype could not be found in N. Y. Bot. Gard. Herb. I have examined a portion of the cotype, communicated by Ellis, now in Farlow Herb., and it differs in no respect from *M. niveus*.